

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 L-03 NSC-07 CAB-09 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-11 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

FAA-00 PRS-01 ARAE-00 DRC-01 /084 W

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P 021635Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 798

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 5324

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRN, PE

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: BRANIFF - AEROPERU PROBLEM

REFS: STATE 141963 AND 140405

1. FOLLOWING RECEIPT DEPTTEL 141963 YESTERDAY AFTERNOON I ATTEMPTED ARRANGE CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER DE LA FLOR OR ALTERNATELY SPEAK WITH HIM BY PHONE. UNFORTUNATELY DE LA FLOR NOT AVAILABLE (YESTERDAY LAST DAY OF OFFICIAL VISIT OF GUYANESE FOREIGN MINISTER AND NEWS OF PRESIDENT PERON'S DEATH ADDED TO INTENSE FOREIGN OFFICE ACTIVITY) AND DE LA FLOR IN THROES PREPARATIONS FOR DEPARTURE FOR ARGENTINA TO ATTEND FUNERAL SERVICES OF PERON. ON OTHER HAND, WE INFORMED BY BOTH AMBASSADOR MARCHAND AND FONOFF SECGEN GARCIA BEDOYA THAT DE LA FLOR WAS SHOWN LAST FRIDAY EVENING COPY OF MY LETTER TO TRANSPORT MINISTER CONTAINING ESSENCE OF DEPTTEL 140405 INFORMING US OF GREAT LENGTHS TO WHICH DEPARTMENT HAS GONE AND IS PREPARED TO GO IN EXPEDITING ISSUANCE AEROPERU AUTHORIZATION WITHOUT OFFENDING RESTRICTIONS. DE LA FLOR REPORTEDLY ALSO FOUND DEPARTMENT'S MESSAGE VERY FORTHCOMING AND HELPFUL.

2. WE ARE ALSO PLACING COPIES OF MY LETTER (ON "RESERVADO" BASIS) REPORTING THAT MESSAGE IN HANDS OF AIR MINISTER GILARDI WHO HAS STRONG PERSONAL INTEREST IN AEROPERU'S SUCCESS.

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(GILARDI WILL ALSO BE OUT OF TOWN TODAY AND POSSIBLY TOMORROW

ALONG WITH OTHER MEMBERS PERU'S OFFICIAL DELEGATION TO PERON
FUNERAL RITES. GILARDI HAS BEEN DESIGNATED CHIEF OF DELEGATION.)

3. THUS WE BELIEVE PRINCIPAL MINISTERS OF PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT
ARE WELL AWARE OUR EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF AEROPERU AND OUR
URGENT REQUEST THAT NEW BRANIFF FREQUENCIES BE AUTHORIZED
AND EARLY CONSULTATIONS SCHEDULED. WE HOPE THAT THIS QUESTION
WILL AGAIN BE CONSIDERED BY PRESIDENT VELASCO AND HIS CABINET
AT TODAY'S WEEKLY CABINET MEETING (ALTHOUGH WE RECOGNIZE
THAT ABSENCE OF TWO KEY MINISTERS TO ATTEND PERON RITES MAY
REDUCE SOMEWHAT ATTENTION GIVEN THIS PROBLEM TODAY). IN THE
MEANTIME, WE HOPE THAT CAB PROCESS TOWARD GRANTING DESIRED
AEROPERU AUTHORIZATION BE CONTINUED AND ACCELERATED.
IT IS CLEAR IN OUR MINDS THAT SUCH AUTHORIZATION WOULD IN ALL
LIKELIHOOD CUT GORDIAN KNOT AEROPERU-BRANIFF
QUESTION.
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